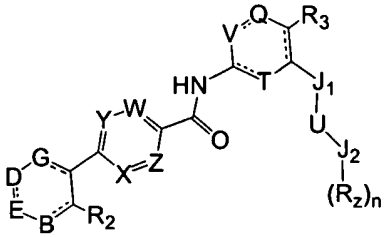
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

each ---- independently represents a single or double bond;

B and E are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N; or B and E are taken together to form a fused 5- to 8-membered partially saturated ring that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from R_1;

D and G are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N;

W, X, Y and Z are independently CR_1 or N;

Q, T and V are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, N or NH; or Q is taken together with V or R_3 to form a fused 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

R_1 is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro, and groups of the formula L-M;

R_2 is halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro or a group of the formula L-M;

R_3 is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_8haloalkyl, C_2-C_8alkyl ether, C_1-C_8alkylsulfonyl, C_1-C_8alkylsulfonamido or taken together with Q to form a fused, optionally substituted, 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle;

L is independently chosen at each occurrence from a single covalent bond, O, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, OC(=O)O, $S(O)_m$, $N(R_x)$, $C(=O)N(R_x)$, $N(R_x)C(=O)$, $N(R_x)S(O)_m$, $S(O)_mN(R_x)$ and $N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m$; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_8alkyl;

M is independently selected at each occurrence from (a) hydrogen and hydroxy; and (b) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, mono- and di-(C_1-C_4alkyl)aminoC_0-C_4alkyl, phenylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl)C_0-C_4alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 5 substituents independently selected from R_b;

J_1 chosen from O, NH and S;

U is C_1-C_3alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C_1-C_3alkyl, or two substituents are taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl;

Either: (a) J_2 is O or S,

n is 1, and

R_z is hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkyl or C_2-C_6alkyl ether; or

(b) J_2 is N,

n is 2, and

(i) R_z is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_6alkyl substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; or

(ii) both R_z moieties are joined to form, with J_2, a 5- to 8-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; and

R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, oxo, COOH, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_6haloalkoxy, C_2-C_6alkyl ether, aminocarbonyl, C_1-C_6hydroxyalkyl, C_1-C_6aminoalkyl and mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino.

2. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 1, wherein each ---- represents a double bond.

3. (Currently amended) A compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~or claim 2~~, wherein B, E, D, Y and W are CH.

4. (Currently amended) A compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-3~~, wherein T and V are independently N or CH.

5. (Currently amended) A compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-4~~, wherein G is N.

6. (Currently amended) A compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-5~~, wherein R_2 is cyano, nitro, NHOH, amino, C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4haloalkyl, C_1-C_4hydroxyalkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy, C_1-C_4alkylthio, C_1-C_4alkanoyl, C_1-C_4aminoalkyl, mono- or di-(C_1-C_4alkyl)aminoC_0-C_4alkyl, (C_5-C_6cycloalkyl)amino, (5- or 6-membered heterocycloalkyl)C_0-C_4alkyl, -N(R_x)SO_2C_1-C_4alkyl or -N(SO_2C_1-C_4alkyl)$_2$.

7. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 6, wherein R_2 is cyano, CHO, amino, nitro, C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4haloalkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy, C_1-C_4haloalkoxy, C_1-C_4alkylthio, C_1-C_4hydroxyalkyl, C_1-C_4aminoalkyl, mono- and di-(C_1-C_4alkyl)aminoC_0-C_4alkyl, oxadiazolyl, cyclopentylamino, -N(H)SO_2C_1-C_4alkyl, -N(CH_3)SO_2C_1-C_4alkyl or -N(SO_2C_1-C_2alkyl)$_2$.

8. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 7, wherein R_2 is cyano, CHO, amino, nitro, methyl, ethyl, propyl, hydroxymethyl, trifluoromethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, methylthio, ethylthio, C_1-C_4alkylamino, (C_1-C_4alkyl)aminomethyl, cyclopentylamino, -N(H)SO_2C_1-C_4alkyl, -N(CH_3)SO_2CH_3 or -N(SO_2CH_3)$_2$.

9. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 6, wherein R_2 is halogen, methyl, cyano or trifluoromethyl.

10. (Currently amended) A compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-9~~, wherein J_1 is O.

11. (Currently amended) A compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-10~~, wherein U is C_2alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 2 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C_1-C_3alkyl.

12. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 11, wherein U is -CH_2-CH_2-.

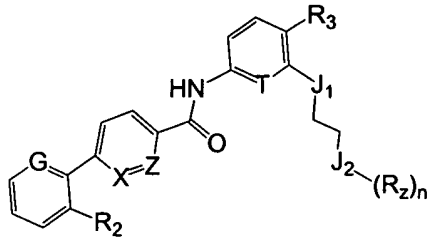
13. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 11, wherein U is -CH_2-C(O)-.

14. (Currently amended) A compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-13~~, wherein $-J_2-(R_z)_n$ is chosen from: (i) –OH and -NH_2, and (ii) C_1-C_4alkoxy, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl and mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from hydroxy, halogen, amino, C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4haloalkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy, C_1-C_4haloalkoxy and C_1-C_4alkylthio.

15. (Currently amended) A compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-14~~, wherein R_3 is halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl, C_2-C_4alkyl ether, C_1-C_4haloalkyl, C_1-C_4hydroxyalkyl, $-SO_2CF_3$ or taken together with Q to form a fused, 5- or 6-membered carbocycle or heterocycle.

16. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 15, wherein R_3 is halogen, *tert*-butyl or trifluoromethyl.

17. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 1, wherein the compound has the formula:



wherein:

G and T are independently CH or N;

R_2 is cyano, CHO, amino, nitro, methyl, ethyl, propyl, trifluoromethyl, methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, methylthio, ethylthio, -N(H)SO_2C_1-C_4alkyl, -N(CH_3)SO_2C_1-C_4alkyl or -N(SO_2CH_3)$_2$;

R_3 is halogen, cyano, C_1-C_6alkyl or C_1-C_6haloalkyl;

X and Z are independently N, CH, C-OH, C-NH_2, C(C_1-C_3alkyl) or C(C_1-C_3haloalkyl);

J_1 is O or NH; and

$-J_2-(R_z)_n$ is chosen from: (i) –OH and $-NH_2$, and (ii) C_1-C_4alkoxy, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl and mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from hydroxy, halogen, amino, C_1-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_4haloalkyl, C_1-C_4alkoxy, C_1-C_4haloalkoxy and C_1-C_4alkylthio.

18. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 17, wherein J_1 is O.

19. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 18, wherein:

X and Z are independently N or CH;

G is N; and

R_2 and R_3 are independently halogen, C_1-C_4alkyl or C_1-C_4haloalkyl.

20. (Original) A compound or salt according to claim 1, wherein the compound is selected from:

N-[4-*tert*-Butyl-3-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-phenyl]-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzamide;

N-[4-*tert*-Butyl-3-(2-morpholin-4-yl-ethoxy)-phenyl]-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzamide;

N-{4-*tert*-Butyl-3-[2-(2,6-dimethyl-morpholin-4-yl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzamide (cis);

N-[4-*tert*-Butyl-3-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethoxy)-phenyl]-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzamide;

N-(3-{2-[Bis-(2-methoxy-ethyl)-amino]-ethoxy}-4-tert-butyl-phenyl)-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzamide;

N-{4-*tert*-Butyl-3-[2-(3,3-dimethyl-piperidin-1-yl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzamide;

N-[4-*tert*-Butyl-3-(2-hydroxy-ethoxy)-phenyl]-2-hydroxy-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzamide;

N-{4-*tert*-Butyl-3-[2-(2,6-dimethyl-morpholin-4-yl)-ethoxy]-phenyl}-2-hydroxy-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzamide (cis); and

N-[4-*tert*-Butyl-3-(2-piperidin-1-yl-ethoxy)-phenyl]-2-hydroxy-4-(3-trifluoromethyl-pyridin-2-yl)-benzamide.

21. (Currently amended) A compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-20~~, wherein the compound exhibits no detectable agonist activity an *in vitro* assay of capsaicin receptor agonism.

22. (Currently amended) A compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-20~~, wherein the compound has an IC_{50} value of 1 micromolar or less in a capsaicin receptor calcium mobilization assay.

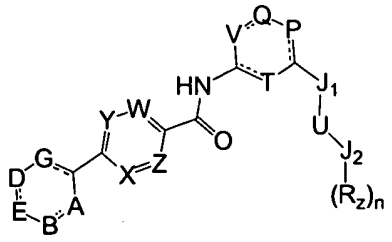
23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising at least one compound or salt according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-20~~, in combination with a physiologically acceptable carrier or excipient.

25. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 24 wherein the composition is formulated as an injectible fluid, an aerosol, a cream, a gel, a pill, a capsule, a syrup or a transdermal patch.

26-36. (Cancelled)

37. (Original) A method for inhibiting binding of vanilloid ligand to capsaicin receptor in a patient, comprising contacting cells expressing capsaicin receptor with at least one compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

each ---- independently represents a single or double bond;

either: (a) A, B and E are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N; or

(b) B is joined with A or E to form a fused 5- to 8-membered partially saturated ring that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from R_1, and the other of A or E is CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N;

D and G are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N;

W, X, Y and Z are independently CR_1 or N;

P, Q, T and V are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, N or NH; or Q is taken together with V or P to form a fused 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

R_1 is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro, and groups of the formula L-M;

L is independently chosen at each occurrence from a single covalent bond, O, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, OC(=O)O, $S(O)_m$, $N(R_x)$, $C(=O)N(R_x)$, $N(R_x)C(=O)$, $N(R_x)S(O)_m$, $S(O)_mN(R_x)$ and $N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m$; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_8alkyl;

M is independently selected at each occurrence from (a) hydrogen; and (b) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, mono- and di-(C_1-C_4alkyl)aminoC_0-C_4alkyl, phenylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl, (5-membered heteroaryl)C_0-C_4alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl)C_0-C_4alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 5 substituents independently selected from R_b;

J_1 chosen from O, NH and S;

U is C_1-C_3alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C_1-C_3alkyl, or two substituents are taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl;

Either: (a) J_2 is O or S,

n is 1, and

R_z is hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkyl or C_2-C_6alkyl ether; or

(b) J_2 is N,

n is 2, and

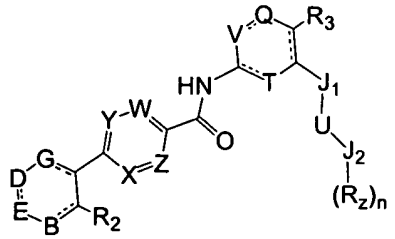
(i) R_z is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_6alkyl substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; or

(ii) both R_z moieties are joined to form, with J_2, a 5- to 8-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; and

R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, oxo, COOH, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_6haloalkoxy, C_2-C_6alkyl ether, aminocarbonyl, C_1-C_6hydroxyalkyl, C_1-C_6aminoalkyl and mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino;

and thereby inhibiting binding of vanilloid ligand to the capsaicin receptor in the patient.

38. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 37, wherein the at least one compound is represented by the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

each ---- independently represents a single or double bond;

B and E are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N; or B and E are taken together to form a fused 5- to 8-membered partially saturated ring that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from R_1;

D and G are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N;

W, X, Y and Z are independently CR_1 or N;

Q, T and V are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, N or NH; or Q is taken together with V or R_3 to form a fused 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

R_1 is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro, and groups of the formula L-M;

R_2 is halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro or a group of the formula L-M;

R_3 is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_8haloalkyl, C_2-C_8alkyl ether, C_1-C_8alkylsulfonyl, C_1-C_8alkylsulfonamido or taken together with Q to form a fused, optionally substituted, 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle;

L is independently chosen at each occurrence from a single covalent bond, O, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, OC(=O)O, $S(O)_m$, $N(R_x)$, $C(=O)N(R_x)$, $N(R_x)C(=O)$, $N(R_x)S(O)_m$, $S(O)_mN(R_x)$ and $N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m$; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_8alkyl;

M is independently selected at each occurrence from (a) hydrogen and hydroxy; and (b) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, mono- and di-(C_1-C_4alkyl)aminoC_0-C_4alkyl, phenylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl)C_0-C_4alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 5 substituents independently selected from R_b;

J_1 chosen from O, NH and S;

U is C_1-C_3alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C_1-C_3alkyl, or two substituents are taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl;

Either: (a) J_2 is O or S,

n is 1, and

R_z is hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkyl or C_2-C_6alkyl ether; or

(b) J_2 is N,

n is 2, and

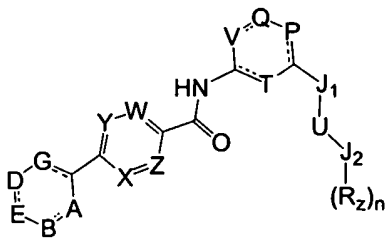
(i) R_z is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_6alkyl substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; or

(ii) both R_z moieties are joined to form, with J_2, a 5- to 8-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; and

R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, oxo, COOH, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_6haloalkoxy, C_2-C_6alkyl ether, aminocarbonyl, C_1-C_6hydroxyalkyl, C_1-C_6aminoalkyl and mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino ~~the compound is a compound according to claim any one of claims 1-20~~.

39. (Original) A method according to claim 37, wherein the patient is a human.

40. (Original) A method for treating a condition responsive to capsaicin receptor modulation in a patient, comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

each ---- independently represents a single or double bond;

either: (a) A, B and E are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N; or

(b) B is joined with A or E to form a fused 5- to 8-membered partially saturated ring that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from R_1, and the other of A or E is CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N;

D and G are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N;

W, X, Y and Z are independently CR_1 or N;

P, Q, T and V are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, N or NH; or Q is taken together with V or P to form a fused 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

R_1 is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro, and groups of the formula L-M;

L is independently chosen at each occurrence from a single covalent bond, O, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, OC(=O)O, $S(O)_m$, $N(R_x)$, $C(=O)N(R_x)$, $N(R_x)C(=O)$, $N(R_x)S(O)_m$, $S(O)_mN(R_x)$ and $N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m$; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_8alkyl;

M is independently selected at each occurrence from (a) hydrogen; and (b) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, mono- and di-(C_1-C_4alkyl)aminoC_0-C_4alkyl, phenylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl, (5-membered heteroaryl)C_0-C_4alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl)C_0-C_4alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 5 substituents independently selected from R_b;

J_1 chosen from O, NH and S;

U is C_1-C_3alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C_1-C_3alkyl, or two substituents are taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl;

Either: (a) J_2 is O or S,

n is 1, and

R_z is hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkyl or C_2-C_6alkyl ether; or

(b) J_2 is N,

n is 2, and

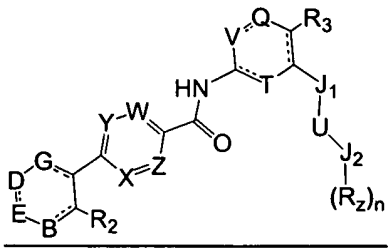
(i) R_z is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_6alkyl substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; or

(ii) both R_z moieties are joined to form, with J_2, a 5- to 8-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; and

R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, oxo, COOH, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_6haloalkoxy, C_2-C_6alkyl ether, aminocarbonyl, C_1-C_6hydroxyalkyl, C_1-C_6aminoalkyl and mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino;

and thereby alleviating the condition in the patient.

41. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 40, wherein the at least one compound is represented by the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

each ---- independently represents a single or double bond;

B and E are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N; or B and E are taken together to form a fused 5- to 8-membered partially saturated ring that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from R_1;

D and G are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N;

W, X, Y and Z are independently CR_1 or N;

Q, T and V are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, N or NH; or Q is taken together with V or R_3 to form a fused 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

R_1 is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro, and groups of the formula L-M;

R_2 is halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro or a group of the formula L-M;

R_3 is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_8haloalkyl, C_2-C_8alkyl ether, C_1-C_8alkylsulfonyl, C_1-C_8alkylsulfonamido or taken together with Q to form a fused, optionally substituted, 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle;

L is independently chosen at each occurrence from a single covalent bond, O, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, OC(=O)O, $S(O)_m$, $N(R_x)$, C(=O)$N(R_x)$, $N(R_x)$C(=O), $N(R_x)S(O)_m$, $S(O)_mN(R_x)$ and $N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m$; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_8alkyl;

M is independently selected at each occurrence from (a) hydrogen and hydroxy; and (b) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, mono- and di-(C_1-C_4alkyl)aminoC_0-C_4alkyl, phenylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl)C_0-C_4alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 5 substituents independently selected from R_b;

J_1 chosen from O, NH and S;

U is C_1-C_3alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C_1-C_3alkyl, or two substituents are taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl;

Either: (a) J_2 is O or S,

n is 1, and

R_z is hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkyl or C_2-C_6alkyl ether; or

(b) J_2 is N,

n is 2, and

(i) R_z is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_6alkyl substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; or

(ii) both R_z moieties are joined to form, with J_2, a 5- to 8-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; and

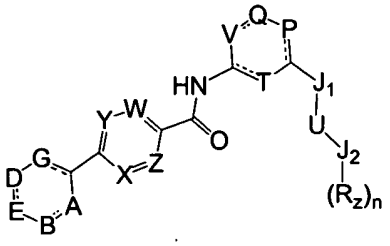
R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, oxo, COOH, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkyl, C_1-

C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_6haloalkoxy, C_2-C_6alkyl ether, aminocarbonyl, C_1-C_6hydroxyalkyl, C_1-C_6aminoalkyl and mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino ~~the compound is a compound according to claim any one of claims 1-20~~.

42. (Orignial) A method according to claim 40, wherein the patient is suffering from (i) exposure to capsaicin, (ii) burn or irritation due to exposure to heat, (iii) burns or irritation due to exposure to light, (iv) burn, bronchoconstriction or irritation due to exposure to tear gas, air pollutants, infectious agents or pepper spray, or (v) burn or irritation due to exposure to acid

43. (Original) A method according to claim 40, wherein the condition is asthma or chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

44. (Original) A method for treating pain in a patient, comprising administering to a patient suffering from pain a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

each ---- independently represents a single or double bond;

either: (a) A, B and E are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N; or

(b) B is joined with A or E to form a fused 5- to 8-membered partially saturated ring that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from R_1, and the other of A or E is CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N;

D and G are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N;

W, X, Y and Z are independently CR_1 or N;

P, Q, T and V are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, N or NH; or Q is taken together with V or P to form a fused 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

R_1 is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro, and groups of the formula L-M;

L is independently chosen at each occurrence from a single covalent bond, O, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, OC(=O)O, $S(O)_m$, $N(R_x)$, $C(=O)N(R_x)$, $N(R_x)C(=O)$, $N(R_x)S(O)_m$, $S(O)_mN(R_x)$ and $N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m$; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_8alkyl;

M is independently selected at each occurrence from (a) hydrogen; and (b) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, mono- and di-(C_1-C_4alkyl)aminoC_0-C_4alkyl, phenylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl, (5-membered heteroaryl)C_0-C_4alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl)C_0-C_4alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 5 substituents independently selected from R_b;

J_1 chosen from O, NH and S;

U is C_1-C_3alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C_1-C_3alkyl, or two substituents are taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl;

Either: (a) J_2 is O or S,

n is 1, and

R_z is hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkyl or C_2-C_6alkyl ether; or

(b) J_2 is N,

n is 2, and

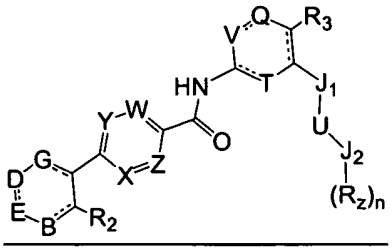
(i) R_z is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_6alkyl substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; or

(ii) both R_z moieties are joined to form, with J_2, a 5- to 8-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; and

R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, oxo, COOH, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_6haloalkoxy, C_2-C_6alkyl ether, aminocarbonyl, C_1-C_6hydroxyalkyl, C_1-C_6aminoalkyl and mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino;

and thereby alleviating pain in the patient.

45. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 44, wherein the at least one compound is represented by the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

each ---- independently represents a single or double bond;

B and E are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N; or B and E are taken together to form a fused 5- to 8-membered partially saturated ring that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from R_1;

D and G are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N;

W, X, Y and Z are independently CR_1 or N;

Q, T and V are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, N or NH; or Q is taken together with V or R_3 to form a fused 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

R_1 is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro, and groups of the formula L-M;

R_2 is halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro or a group of the formula L-M;

R_3 is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_8haloalkyl, C_2-C_8alkyl ether, C_1-C_8alkylsulfonyl, C_1-C_8alkylsulfonamido or taken together with Q to form a fused, optionally substituted, 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle;

L is independently chosen at each occurrence from a single covalent bond, O, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, OC(=O)O, $S(O)_m$, $N(R_x)$, $C(=O)N(R_x)$, $N(R_x)C(=O)$, $N(R_x)S(O)_m$, $S(O)_mN(R_x)$ and $N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m$; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_8alkyl;

M is independently selected at each occurrence from (a) hydrogen and hydroxy; and (b) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, mono- and di-(C_1-C_4alkyl)aminoC_0-C_4alkyl,

phenylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl)C_0-C_4alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 5 substituents independently selected from R_b;

J_1 chosen from O, NH and S;

U is C_1-C_3alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C_1-C_3alkyl, or two substituents are taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl;

Either: (a) J_2 is O or S,

n is 1, and

R_z is hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkyl or C_2-C_6alkyl ether; or

(b) J_2 is N,

n is 2, and

(i) R_z is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_6alkyl substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; or

(ii) both R_z moieties are joined to form, with J_2, a 5- to 8-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; and

R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, oxo, COOH, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_6haloalkoxy, C_2-C_6alkyl ether, aminocarbonyl, C_1-C_6hydroxyalkyl, C_1-C_6aminoalkyl and mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino ~~the compound is a compound according to claim any one of claims 1-20~~.

46. (Original) A method according to claim 44, wherein the compound is present in the blood of the patient at a concentration of 1 micromolar or less.

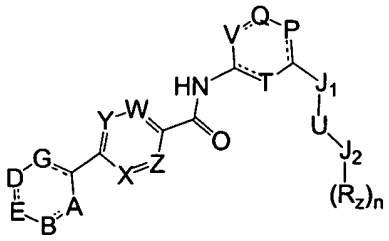
47. (Original) A method according to claim 44, wherein the patient is suffering from neuropathic pain.

48. (Original) A method according to claim 44, wherein the pain is associated with a condition selected from: postmastectomy pain syndrome, stump

pain, phantom limb pain, oral neuropathic pain, toothache, postherpetic neuralgia, diabetic neuropathy, reflex sympathetic dystrophy, trigeminal neuralgia, osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, fibromyalgia, Guillain-Barre syndrome, meralgia paresthetica, burning-mouth syndrome, bilateral peripheral neuropathy, causalgia, neuritis, neuronitis, neuralgia, AIDS-related neuropathy, MS-related neuropathy, spinal cord injury-related pain, surgery-related pain, musculoskeletal pain, back pain, headache, migraine, angina, labor, hemorrhoids, dyspepsia, Charcot's pains, intestinal gas, menstruation, cancer, venom exposure, irritable bowel syndrome, inflammatory bowel disease and trauma.

49. (Original) A method according to claim 44, wherein the patient is a human.

50. (Currently amended) A method for treating itch, cough or hiccup in a patient, comprising administering to a patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

each ---- independently represents a single or double bond;

either: (a) A, B and E are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N; or

(b) B is joined with A or E to form a fused 5- to 8-membered partially saturated ring that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from R_1, and the other of A or E is CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N;

D and G are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N;

W, X, Y and Z are independently CR_1 or N;

P, Q, T and V are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, N or NH; or Q is taken together with V or P to form a fused 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

R_1 is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro, and groups of the formula L-M;

L is independently chosen at each occurrence from a single covalent bond, O, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, OC(=O)O, $S(O)_m$, $N(R_x)$, $C(=O)N(R_x)$, $N(R_x)C(=O)$, $N(R_x)S(O)_m$, $S(O)_mN(R_x)$ and $N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m$; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_8alkyl;

M is independently selected at each occurrence from (a) hydrogen; and (b) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, mono- and di-(C_1-C_4alkyl)aminoC_0-C_4alkyl, phenylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl, (5-membered heteroaryl)C_0-C_4alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl)C_0-C_4alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 5 substituents independently selected from R_b;

J_1 chosen from O, NH and S;

U is C_1-C_3alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C_1-C_3alkyl, or two substituents are taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl;

Either: (a) J_2 is O or S,

n is 1, and

R_z is hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkyl or C_2-C_6alkyl ether; or

(b) J_2 is N,

n is 2, and

(i) R_z is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_6alkyl substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; or

(ii) both R_z moieties are joined to form, with J_2, a 5- to 8-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; and

R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, oxo, COOH, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkyl, C_1-

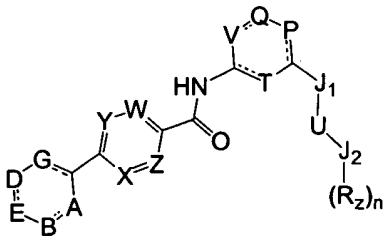
C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_6haloalkoxy, C_2-C_6alkyl ether, aminocarbonyl, C_1-C_6hydroxyalkyl, C_1-C_6aminoalkyl and mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino;

and thereby alleviating itch in the patient.

51. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 50, wherein the compound is a compound according to ~~claim any one of claims 1-20~~.

52-53. (Cancelled)

54. (Original) A method for treating urinary incontinence or overactive bladder in a patient, comprising administering to a patient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

each ---- independently represents a single or double bond;

either: (a) A, B and E are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N; or

(b) B is joined with A or E to form a fused 5- to 8-membered partially saturated ring that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from R_1, and the other of A or E is CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N;

D and G are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N;

W, X, Y and Z are independently CR_1 or N;

P, Q, T and V are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, N or NH; or Q is taken together with V or P to form a fused 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

R_1 is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro, and groups of the formula L-M;

L is independently chosen at each occurrence from a single covalent bond, O, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, OC(=O)O, $S(O)_m$, $N(R_x)$, $C(=O)N(R_x)$, $N(R_x)C(=O)$, $N(R_x)S(O)_m$,

$S(O)_mN(R_x)$ and $N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m$; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_8alkyl;

M is independently selected at each occurrence from (a) hydrogen; and (b) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, mono- and di-(C_1-C_4alkyl)aminoC_0-C_4alkyl, phenylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl, (5-membered heteroaryl)C_0-C_4alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl)C_0-C_4alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 5 substituents independently selected from R_b;

J_1 chosen from O, NH and S;

U is C_1-C_3alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C_1-C_3alkyl, or two substituents are taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl;

Either: (a) J_2 is O or S,

n is 1, and

R_z is hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkyl or C_2-C_6alkyl ether; or

(b) J_2 is N,

n is 2, and

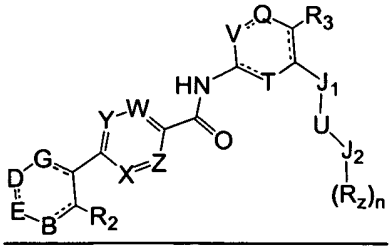
(i) R_z is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_6alkyl substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; or

(ii) both R_z moieties are joined to form, with J_2, a 5- to 8-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; and

R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, oxo, COOH, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_6haloalkoxy, C_2-C_6alkyl ether, aminocarbonyl, C_1-C_6hydroxyalkyl, C_1-C_6aminoalkyl and mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino;

and thereby alleviating urinary incontinence or overactive bladder in the patient.

55. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 54, wherein the one compound is represented by the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein:

each ---- independently represents a single or double bond;

B and E are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N; or B and E are taken together to form a fused 5- to 8-membered partially saturated ring that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently selected from R_1;

D and G are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, NR_1 or N;

W, X, Y and Z are independently CR_1 or N;

Q, T and V are independently CR_1, $C(R_1)_2$, N or NH; or Q is taken together with V or R_3 to form a fused 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle that is substituted with from 0 to 4 substituents independently chosen from R_b;

R_1 is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen, halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro, and groups of the formula L-M;

R_2 is halogen, hydroxy, amino, cyano, nitro or a group of the formula L-M;

R_3 is hydrogen, halogen, cyano, C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_8haloalkyl, C_2-C_8alkyl ether, C_1-C_8alkylsulfonyl, C_1-C_8alkylsulfonamido or taken together with Q to form a fused, optionally substituted, 5- to 7-membered carbocycle or heterocycle;

L is independently chosen at each occurrence from a single covalent bond, O, C(=O), OC(=O), C(=O)O, OC(=O)O, $S(O)_m$, $N(R_x)$, $C(=O)N(R_x)$, $N(R_x)C(=O)$, $N(R_x)S(O)_m$, $S(O)_mN(R_x)$ and $N[S(O)_mR_x]S(O)_m$; wherein m is independently selected at each occurrence from 0, 1 and 2; and R_x is independently selected at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_8alkyl;

M is independently selected at each occurrence from (a) hydrogen and hydroxy; and (b) C_1-C_8alkyl, C_2-C_8alkenyl, C_2-C_8alkynyl, mono- and di-(C_1-C_4alkyl)aminoC_0-C_4alkyl,

phenylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl and (5- to 7-membered heterocycloalkyl)C_0-C_4alkyl, each of which is substituted with from 0 to 5 substituents independently selected from R_b;

J_1 chosen from O, NH and S;

U is C_1-C_3alkyl, substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents independently chosen from oxo and C_1-C_3alkyl, or two substituents are taken together to form a 3- to 7-membered cycloalkyl or heterocycloalkyl;

Either: (a) J_2 is O or S,

n is 1, and

R_z is hydrogen, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkyl or C_2-C_6alkyl ether; or

(b) J_2 is N,

n is 2, and

(i) R_z is independently chosen at each occurrence from hydrogen and C_1-C_6alkyl substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; or

(ii) both R_z moieties are joined to form, with J_2, a 5- to 8-membered heterocycloalkyl that is substituted with from 0 to 3 substituents selected from R_b; and

R_b is independently chosen at each occurrence from halogen, hydroxy, cyano, nitro, amino, oxo, COOH, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkylC_0-C_4alkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_6haloalkoxy, C_2-C_6alkyl ether, aminocarbonyl, C_1-C_6hydroxyalkyl, C_1-C_6aminoalkyl and mono- and di-(C_1-C_6alkyl)amino ~~the compound is a compound according to claim any one of claims 1-20~~.

56-60. (Cancelled)

61. (Original) A packaged pharmaceutical preparation, comprising:

(a) a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 24 in a container; and

(b) instructions for using the composition to treat pain.

62-63. (Cancelled)

64. (Original) A packaged pharmaceutical preparation, comprising:

(a) a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 24 in a container; and

(b) instructions for using the composition to treat urinary incontinence or overactive bladder.

65-66. (Cancelled)